**Module Specification**

### ABOUT THIS DOCUMENT

This module specification applies for the academic year 2019-20

**Last revised** 19 August 2019 by Melanie Morris and Martin McKee

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### GENERAL INFORMATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Module name</th>
<th>Issues in Public Health</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Module code</td>
<td>1123</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Module Organisers</td>
<td>Professor Martin McKee and Dr Melanie Morris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact email</td>
<td><a href="mailto:Martin.McKee@lshtm.ac.uk">Martin.McKee@lshtm.ac.uk</a>; <a href="mailto:Melanie.Morris@lshtm.ac.uk">Melanie.Morris@lshtm.ac.uk</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Home Faculty</td>
<td>Public Health &amp; Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Credit</td>
<td>10 credits, within the larger 60-credit Term 1 super-module for each MSc programme. Credits are not awarded for this module individually, but only for successful completion of the Term 1 super-module.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accreditation</td>
<td>Not currently accredited by any other body.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keywords</td>
<td>Burden of disease; measuring health status; equity; smoking; climate; demography; international.</td>
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### AIMS, OBJECTIVES AND AUDIENCE

**Overall aim**

This module is designed to give an answer to the question "what is public health?" and to introduce the main concepts, principles and practices of public health, illustrated by selected major topics in high and middle income countries.

**Intended learning outcomes**

By the end of this module, students should be able to:

- Explain the philosophy underpinning public health action, how it has evolved and how to apply it to health policies
- Interpret and evaluate work that applies key public health approaches, including describing patterns of health in populations, assessing disease burden, and assessing health impacts of policies in other sectors
- Communicate to others the major threats to health and their distribution within populations

**Target audience**

This module is designed for students wishing to understand the development, conceptual basis, and evidence for effectiveness of policies designed to promote health of populations, and whose aim is to contribute to...
population health in high or middle income countries. It is compulsory for students taking the General stream of the MSc in Public Health. The focus is mainly, but not exclusively, on middle- and high-income countries. The module provides good preparation for Principles & Practice of Public Health (1608).

**CONTENT**

**Session content**

The module is expected to include sessions addressing the following topics:

- The evolution and conceptual basis of public health
- The ways of describing patterns of health and disease in defined populations
- Methods of assessing the health impact of different types of policy
- Leading threats to health
- Impact of health threats on population health
- Interventions to counter health threats

**TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT**

**Study resources provided or required**

Module Information can be found on the Virtual Learning Environment (Moodle) containing information about each session and key references for the module. *Issues in Public Health (2nd Edition)*, Edited by Fiona Sim & Martin McKee.

**Teaching and learning methods**

Teaching is by lectures; seminars; structured, self-directed learning; and group project work.

**Assessment details**

Informal assessment will be through a group report on a public health issue allocated to each group.

Formal assessment of this module is by written examination.

**Assessment dates**

Informal assessment: group reports will be submitted on 8 December 2019.

Written examinations will take place during the summer term in late May/early June.

Resit/deferred/new attempts at examinations will take place during the summer term in late May/early June in the following academic year.

**Language of study and assessment**

English (please see 'English language requirements' below regarding the standard required for entry).

**TIMING AND MODE OF STUDY**

**Duration**

10 weeks at 0.5 days per week

**Dates**

Tuesday afternoons

**Timetable slot**

Term 1

**Mode of Study**

The module is taught face-to-face in London. Both full-time and part-time students follow the same schedule.

**Learning time**

The notional learning time for the module totals 100 hours, consisting of:

- Contact time ≈ 27 hours
- Directed self-study ≈ 28 hours
- Self-directed learning ≈ 15 hours
- Assessment, review and revision ≈ 30 hours

### APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pre-requisites</th>
<th>None</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>English language requirements</strong></td>
<td>A strong command of the English language is necessary to benefit from studying the module. Applicants whose first language is not English or whose prior university studies have not been conducted wholly in English must fulfil LSHTM’s <a href="#">English language requirements</a>.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Student numbers</strong></td>
<td>150 (numbers may be capped due to limitations in facilities or staffing)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Student selection</strong></td>
<td>This module is compulsory for students taking the General stream of the MSc in Public Health. Full Registration (full participation) by LSHTM research degree students is required for this module. Preference will be given to LSHTM MSc students and LSHTM research degree students. Other applicants meeting the entry criteria will usually be offered a place in the order applications are received, until any cap on numbers is reached. Applicants may be placed on a waiting list and given priority the next time the module is run.</td>
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